



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.7946 | FAX (517) 373.2678
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/stamas/

For Immediate Release
May 27, 2004

Contact: Jennifer Bowman
(517) 373-7946

Sen. Stamas presents award to local Community Development Director

LANSING – State Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland, presented an award to Carol Steiger of Hawks recently at the sixth Annual Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing for her hard work and dedication in her industry.

Steiger, executive director of Montmorency Area Rural Community Housing (MARCH) in Hillman, was chosen from more than 1,500 of her peers to receive the “Community Development Staff Person of the Year” award from the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan. Her husband, MARCH Vice Chairman Paul Wingate, and Dawn Very of her staff were on hand to celebrate the event.

“Carol has dedicated her life to helping others,” Stamas said. “She understands how important it is to give back to your community and she does so with a passion. Carol truly earned this award.”

During Steiger’s time at MARCH, the organization has grown significantly. She has guided the organization from a county sponsored program with a \$125,000 annual budget to incorporation as a non-profit community housing development organization serving four counties with an annual budget of more than \$4 million.

Steiger is dedicated to advocating on behalf of, and increasing resources for, those working in rural areas. MARCH provides housing and community development services to Montmorency, Alpena, Presque Isle and Oscoda counties in northeast Michigan.

Each year the CDC Staff Person of the Year award is given to an employee of a community development corporation that has demonstrated significant impact, initiative, creativity and collaboration within a neighborhood or community. Nominations for this competitive award are reviewed by a representative panel of judges from partner organizations.

###

Editor’s note: A photo of Sen. Stamas and Carol Steiger is available for download on the Senate Majority Photowire at:

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Stamas/Stamas.htm>